

2 August 1983

Dr. Joshua Lederberg, President
Rockefeller University

via: Cmdr. Robert Stiger
Executive Secretary
DCI STAP
IC Bldg.

Dear Josh,

This concerns my promised assistance on the Soviet commentary on and discussion of the genetics issue. I am passing the relevant Russian text of the USSR Science Academy's proceedings, published in its Vestnik, to Bob Stiger; he can arrange the translation of the article through his office. (I gave you the flavor of the article when we met last month.)

In this connection, I should add a very interesting note: the Vestnik article, in referring to your role in the genetics debate, states that your relevant views were published in Literaturnaya Gazeta. I went back to check that reference, only to discover (much to my surprise) that your article was not published therein. I am frankly puzzled since it is not normal these days for the Soviets to lie quite so boldly in the science context we are dealing with on this occasion. We have to allow, of course, for a misprint or typo, although this is very rare in the central Soviet papers originating in Moscow, and particularly in Litgaz.

I understand from your secretary that you will be away from your office in the coming weeks, but will get your mail. In any case, the intervening weeks will allow for translation of the Vestnik article. Do let me know if I can help further.

Sincerely,



John R. Thomas

P.S. Below is my home address should you wish to communicate with me directly and somewhat faster:

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